

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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\$27,500 Settlement Reached With Alpert & Alpert Iron and Metal, Inc.

Los Angeles --- The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced it has reached a settlement with Alpert & Alpert Iron and Metal, Inc. (Alpert & Alpert) for hazardous waste violations at its facility located at 1815 South Soto Street in Los Angeles. Alpert & Alpert generates, handles, and/or manages hazardous waste at this facility.

Under terms of a Consent Order (Order), signed on April 7, 2005, Alpert & Alpert will pay a total of \$27,500 in penalties to DTSC.

The settlement stems from violations observed by DTSC inspectors during inspections at the facility in June 2004. The violations noted were:

- Failing to make a proper hazardous waste determination
- Failing to prepare hazardous waste manifests for hazardous waste offered for transportation for off-site treatment
- Failing to maintain and operate its facility in a manner to minimize the possibility of any unplanned, sudden or non-sudden release of hazardous waste to air or soil
- Offering hazardous waste for transportation and storage to a facility not authorized to accept such hazardous waste
- Transferring custody of hazardous waste on a bill of lading to an unregistered transporter

As part of the settlement, DTSC will reduce Alpert & Alpert's original penalty by \$5,000 if one of its employees obtain a certificate of satisfactory completion of hazardous waste management courses at the California Compliance School (CCS). CCS provides students with "hands-on" instruction on how to comply with hazardous waste statutes and regulations. Alpert & Alpert must submit the certificate to DTSC within 180 days of the effective date of the Order or they must pay DTSC the additional \$5,000 within 30 days of the initial 180 day deadline.

Alpert & Alpert has corrected the violations found during the inspections.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.